

GET SMART

PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY RESPONDER NEWSLETTER



Specialized Medical Assistance Response Team

SMART Short Term Training Calendar

September 2002

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

October 2002

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

November 2002

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

SMART ALERT STATUS

SMART	On-call
NPS	On-call
Mass Care	On-call
CCP	On-call

**SMART IS RECRUITING
ADDITIONAL VOLUNTEERS.
PLEASE INVITE YOUR FRIENDS.
ALL SKILLS ARE NEEDED.
CALL 898-3525 TO
VOLUNTEER.**

Inside this issue:

SMART Funding	2
MMRS Conference	2
SMART Links	2
Notification Sequence and Packing List	3
Nerve Agent Antidote Kit	4
Health Information Network	5
SMART Staff	6

A core of SMART NPS and CCP team members is completing the Emergency Response to Terrorism Course.

Initial training in June, July and August took the group through the first three of five modules. Everyone is looking forward to finishing the course in October when the final exams will be completed and sent to FEMA for credit.

In upcoming months the teams will continue to develop the alert roster as well as refine packing lists. The team leaders hope to test the alert system in September. The November training will include a special presentation on radiation incidents by Louis Henry. The November training will be at UB.

Attendance at the three monthly scheduled events has been outstanding. Team members who have not attended have missed lively discussions about ID cards and the development of notification actions and packing lists. Although all training is well attended, the Saturday training at the Fire Academy is the most popular.

NOTE: The training time at ECMC has been changed to 6pm.

Please let Tracy Chalmers know about training concerns or ideas..

Disaster Medical Assistance Team Initiative

CDR Tom Mignone, our regional US Public Health Service liaison, has received our letter requesting DMAT designation for SMART and ECHO.

In recent correspondence with Doctor Dice, CDR Mignone indicated that the endorsement letter from the New York State Department of Health is being prepared. When signed it will be forwarded to the National Disaster Medical System for approval.

proval.

Becoming a DMAT opens up additional training from the University of Maryland and FEMA as well as opportunities to play in national exercises..

Check out DMAT's at the NDMS website.





Funding-SMART Gets A Budget

The last three months brought more visibility to SMART and with visibility came the prospect for permanent funding.

The CDC grant was awarded to New York and the New York State Department of Health approved the draft Erie County Bioterrorism Plan which was necessary for the state to begin releasing grant money to the county. The CDC grant will bring over \$950,000 to Erie County's bioterrorism program through August of 2003.

Release of \$250,000 by the state at the end of August will allow SMART to begin purchasing tents, generators, lights, and other supplies.

In addition to the CDC grant, Erie County began two other initiatives to bolster SMART.

Amy Rockwood wrote and submitted a \$150,000 grant application for SMART to recruit, train, and equip volunteers over three years. The grant application is supported by Dr. Billittier and the Erie County Executive Joel Giambra.

The grant application was submitted at the end of August. Check the next Get SMART newsletter to see how we did.

Possibly the most significant funding item is the inclusion of SMART in the Erie County Budget. Collaboration between Michael Walters (Emergency Services Commissioner) and Dr. Billittier resulted in action by the Erie County Legislature to allocate operating funds for SMART in the budget. Erie County is working for SMART.

"SMART leadership traveled to Seattle in September to collaborate with other Region 2 representatives from Rochester, Syracuse, and Newark"

MMRS Conference

The team was represented in Seattle at the Metropolitan Medical Response System Conference September 3-5. William Dice, Tracy Chalmers, and Stephen Stouter carried the flag for SMART.

The one day meeting provided leaders with the opportunity to share information with regional and national teams. Region 2 includes Rochester, Syracuse, New York City and Newark, New Jersey.

Highlights from Seattle included presentations on biological surveillance, National Pharmaceutical Stockpile, and hospital integration successes.



Seattle "Hammering Man" sculpture



US Army Research Institute for Infectious Diseases

SMART Links

Interesting training and information is available on the web. If you have any particularly valuable sites you want to share, send the website address to dicew@erie.gov.

WWW.CDC.GOV (Centers for Disease Control)

WWW.FEMA.GOV (Federal Emergency Management Agency)

HTTP://NDMS.DHHS.GOV (National Disaster Medical System)

WWW.FBI.GOV (Federal Bureau of Investigation)

WWW.USAMRIID.ARMY.MIL (US Army Research Institute for Infectious Diseases)

WWW.AFRRI.USUHS.MIL (Armed Forces Radiobiology Research Institute)

WWW.WHITEHOUSE.GOV/HOMELAND/ (Homeland Security)

WWW.PHPPO.CDC.GOV/HAN/ (Health Alert Network)

Notification Sequence

SMART will begin to publish an alert roster this quarter. The goal of the alert team is to mobilize eight team members in one hour. Team members will report to the Fire Training Center when alerted.

A stand-by team will be alerted for assembly within eight hours.

Based on member suggestions, a Team deployment or readiness bag packing list was developed that all SMART personnel will be required to maintain.

The packing list follows:

Bag: Small backpack (1500cc) with ID Tag

Documents: Photo ID, DMV License, Professional Licenses

Cell phone w/charger

Alphanumeric pager

Contents: Work gloves, safety glasses, hearing protection, rain coat/poncho, dust mask (N95), knife, duct tape, matches/lighter, parachute cord (6ft.), flashlight, extra batteries, padlock, towel, comfort items (water bottle, personal hygiene, medications), paper, pencil.

Options: Knee pads, digital camera, bug spray, extra socks, sunglasses, sunscreen, carabineer.

Deployment kit (uniform): Heavy boots, blue jeans, socks, loose T-shirt/polo shirt, brimmed hat.

When alerted, team members report to the Fire Training Center with kit and bag.



Nerve Agent Antidote Auto Injectors

Nerve Agent Antidote Kit

Nerve agent casualties can be treated with the military Mark 1 and CANA autoinjectors.

The Nerve Agent Antidote Kits (NAAK) are designed for self or buddy aid and do not contain enough antidote to effectively reverse moderate to severe poisoning.

Nerve agent casualties may require over 30mg of atropine to reverse the effects of the agent. NAAK contain 2mg atropine and 600mg of pralidoxime or 2-PAM.

SMART personnel will receive NAAK training in

December. Training is required before personnel will be allowed to use the NAAK.

The Buffalo MMRS is ordering 3,000 NAAK for deployment at times of high threat. The storage site for the NAAK must be a controlled temperature environment and will be supervised by a pharmacist.

Each hospital is maintaining a supply of bulk atropine to complete treatment of any casualties who receive NAAK during decontamination.

The NYS protocol for NAAK is at: www.health.state.ny.us/nysdoh/ems/02-08.pdf

“SMART will receive nerve agent antidote kit training in December when training kits arrive.”

Health Information Network

The Health Information Network is an electronic information sharing and reporting tool developed by the Centers for Disease Control.

Erie County uses the HIN to send case reports of diseases to the State Health Department. SMART coordinator Tracy Fricano Chalmers is the HIN/HAN coordinator for Erie County.

The Health Alert Network and Health Provider Network are available to health care professionals through the State Health Department. The HAN and HPN are accessible by password and offer the latest information on disease outbreaks

and state policies and procedures related to bioterrorism.

SMART personnel who are interested in getting access to these valuable tools should contact Tracy (chalmert@erie.gov)

The HAN is located at:

<https://commerce.health.state.ny.us/hpn/hanweb/hanhome.htm>



Emergency crews at the ground breaking ceremony for the new Erie County EOC.



Specialized Medical Assistance Response Team

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The Specialized Medical Assistance Response Team (SMART) was organized in 1998. The concept for SMART grew from the Erie County Medical Center Department of Emergency Medicine faculty experience with hospital based disaster response teams.

Initial funding for SMART was provided through a grant sponsored by Senator Stachowski. Since its conception, University Emergency Medical Services has operated and provided additional funding for SMART.

SMART is expanding in response to the increased threat of a catastrophic public health emergency due to the use of weapons of mass destruction. SMART capabilities include disaster assessment, casualty collection and medical management, National Pharmaceutical Stockpile management, and management of public health emergencies. SMART is designated in the regional emergency preparedness plan and provides support for local and FBI SWAT teams as well as EMS agencies.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Call Cara if you are available.

